



The above-noted claims, which were originally withdrawn (without traverse) as being directed to a non-elected invention, are being deleted for purposes of reducing the official filing fee in connection with the filing of this CPA. It is respectfully requested that the un-entered amendment, which was filed on July 18, 2002, be formally entered along with the present preliminarily submitted amendment, in connection with a new, non-final examination on the merits.

Incidentally, applicants reserve the right to subsequently file a divisional application directed to the subject matter covered by the above-noted canceled claims.

Examination as well as favorable action therefor of claims 1-11 and 13-24 in view of the responsive amendment of July 18, 2002, as supplemented herein, and an early formal notification of allowability of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Dep. Acct. No. 01-2135 (501.37120CX1), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted, ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

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